

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE



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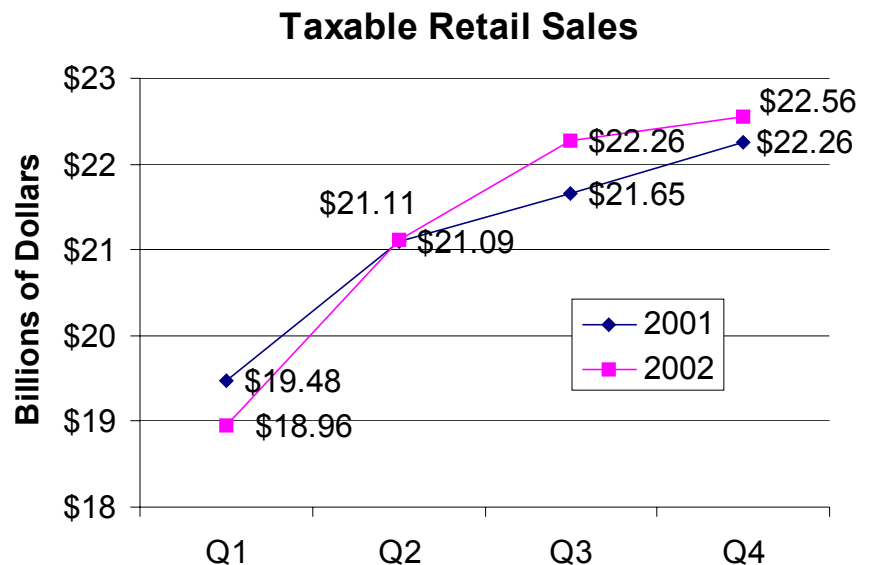
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Taxable Retail Sales Rise 1.4 Percent During Fourth Quarter 2002

OLYMPIA, Wash., April 23, 2003 — Taxable retail sales rose 1.4 percent during the fourth quarter of 2002, according to the latest Quarterly Business Review issued by the Washington State Department of Revenue.

Washington businesses reported \$22.56 billion in taxable retail sales from October through December, compared to \$22.26 billion during the fourth quarter of 2001. Taxable retail sales totaled \$22.46 billion for the fourth quarter of 2000, making the trend essentially flat when measured over a two-year period.

Retail trade totaled \$11.94 billion the fourth quarter of 2002, up 0.9 percent over year-earlier numbers. Retail trade is a subset of all sales that tracks activity at retail outlets only and excludes such volatile sectors as contracting.



In King County, overall taxable retail sales were down 0.1 percent while retail trade was up 0.1 percent. Snohomish County posted a 0.6 percent gain overall but was down 0.9 percent in retail trade. Pierce County gained 2.3 percent in overall taxable retail sales and 2.6 percent in retail trade. In Eastern Washington, Spokane County was down 1.1 percent overall but up 1.5 percent in retail trade.

Among cities, Seattle was down 0.3 percent in overall taxable retail sales but up 0.6 percent in retail trade. Everett was off 3.3 percent overall and down 4.6 percent in retail trade. Tacoma was down 4.1 percent and 1.2 percent, respectively. In Eastern Washington, Spokane was down 0.7 percent overall but up 2.3 percent in retail trade.

Complete results for all counties and cities, including breakdowns of sales by industry sector, are available online at <http://dor.wa.gov>. Go to the quarterly business review area in the statistical reports section, http://dor.wa.gov/content/Statistical_Reports/stats_qbr.asp. Viewers also can use the "create quarterly business reviews" function at http://dor.wa.gov/content/Statistical_Reports/qbrSearch/stats_QBRData.asp to get details on any incorporated city. Users can compare industry-level data by creating separate tables for the second quarters of 2002 and 2001 or any other periods.

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Editors Note: Receive Department of Revenue news releases by email. Go to http://dor.wa.gov/Content/Contact/email/con_email_listserv_app.asp?listtype=news to sign up, or visit <http://dor.wa.gov> and follow the links.

TAXABLE RETAIL SALES BY COUNTY**All Taxable Retail Sales*****Retail Trade Only****

(\$000) add three digits to all figures

	4th Quarter 01	4th Quarter 02	Change	4th Quarter 01	4th Quarter 02	Change
Adams	\$44,228	33,255	-24.8%	\$15,071	\$16,395	8.8%
Asotin	41,331	38,169	-7.7%	23,868	23,316	-2.3%
Benton	502,329	519,454	3.4%	304,617	313,320	2.9%
Chelan	249,296	281,542	12.9%	140,263	139,572	-0.5%
Clallam	180,148	182,363	1.2%	103,645	104,877	1.2%
Clark	919,871	947,602	3.0%	460,795	474,469	3.0%
Columbia	7,135	6,348	-11.0%	2,549	2,051	-19.5%
Cowlitz	269,632	319,175	18.4%	153,301	153,642	0.2%
Douglas	78,696	84,022	6.8%	48,968	53,797	9.9%
Ferry	9,629	7,753	-19.5%	3,196	3,228	1.0%
Franklin	166,819	165,863	-0.6%	72,789	73,196	0.6%
Garfield	4,403	3,694	-16.1%	1,599	1,342	-16.1%
Grant	198,671	179,399	-9.7%	93,975	91,401	-2.7%
Grays Harbor	167,059	182,273	9.1%	92,603	95,883	3.5%
Island	146,720	151,292	3.1%	68,679	71,040	3.4%
Jefferson	68,426	70,300	2.7%	27,756	28,552	2.9%
King	9,238,295	9,233,322	-0.1%	4,499,200	4,501,814	0.1%
Kitsap	676,096	704,123	4.1%	446,038	451,219	1.2%
Kittitas	103,630	116,030	12.0%	54,930	54,966	0.1%
Klickitat	41,345	36,904	-10.7%	9,897	9,020	-8.9%
Lewis	253,217	239,127	-5.6%	120,133	116,047	-3.4%
Lincoln	16,742	16,239	-3.0%	5,603	5,551	-0.9%
Mason	92,958	97,261	4.6%	48,660	47,428	-2.5%
Okanagan	81,811	84,596	3.4%	44,819	44,206	-1.4%
Pacific	31,869	33,614	5.5%	14,572	14,811	1.6%
Pend Oreille	13,740	14,625	6.4%	5,812	6,017	3.5%
Pierce	2,322,545	2,376,111	2.3%	1,341,914	1,376,285	2.6%
San Juan	63,978	63,796	-0.3%	18,659	18,852	1.0%
Skagit	466,550	467,621	0.2%	291,065	292,081	0.3%
Skamania	14,329	14,932	4.2%	2,797	2,909	4.0%
Snohomish	2,109,027	2,120,900	0.6%	1,238,254	1,227,119	-0.9%
Spokane	1,512,388	1,495,662	-1.1%	866,350	879,045	1.5%
Stevens	67,744	76,980	13.6%	35,360	34,581	-2.2%
Thurston	730,323	794,665	8.8%	430,042	444,475	3.4%
Wahkiakum	3,881	5,326	37.3%	1,263	1,344	6.4%
Walla Walla	146,739	133,701	-8.9%	66,898	65,376	-2.3%
Whatcom	562,008	613,136	9.1%	324,050	337,148	4.0%
Whitman	88,247	79,597	-9.8%	35,349	35,598	0.7%
Yakima	563,495	572,084	1.5%	315,232	328,993	4.4%
TOTALS	\$22,255,343	\$22,562,858	1.4%	\$11,830,567	\$11,940,966	0.9%

*All taxable retail sales includes retailing, services, contracting (construction), manufacturing, transportation, communications, utilities, wholesaling, finance, insurance, real estate and others. Sales taxes from contracting can be highly volatile.

**Retail Trade includes taxable sales of building materials and hardware, general merchandise, food, auto dealers, apparel, furnishings, eating/drinking places, and miscellaneous retail stores. This figure better represents consumer purchases.

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TAXABLE RETAIL SALES BY SELECTED CITIES

	All Taxable Retail Sales*			Retail Trade Only**		
	(\$000) add three digits to all figures					
	4th Quarter 01	4th Quarter 02	Change	4th Quarter 01	4th Quarter 02	Change
Aberdeen	\$87,090	\$94,664	8.7%	\$62,648	\$64,486	2.9%
Auburn	348,048	364,411	4.7%	208,220	190,894	-8.3%
Bellevue	1,106,070	1,091,961	-1.3%	628,158	639,817	1.9%
Bellingham	399,686	425,429	6.4%	257,264	267,380	3.9%
Bremerton	153,828	160,734	4.5%	105,001	103,126	-1.8%
Camas	33,726	36,943	9.5%	9,607	10,563	9.9%
Centralia	62,854	56,607	-9.9%	35,990	35,198	-2.2%
Chehalis	79,939	82,676	3.4%	59,407	55,922	-5.9%
Colville	37,855	38,338	1.3%	26,056	24,368	-6.5%
Des Moines	43,137	37,952	-12.0%	22,223	21,218	-4.5%
Edmonds	124,436	126,708	1.8%	74,693	73,148	-2.1%
Ellensburg	68,016	72,287	6.3%	42,193	42,259	0.2%
Everett	561,064	542,751	-3.3%	323,803	308,793	-4.6%
Federal Way	330,303	322,917	-2.2%	225,543	214,334	-5.0%
Fife	136,514	139,148	1.9%	79,474	85,640	7.8%
Issaquah	270,432	259,933	-3.9%	169,418	168,900	-0.3%
Kelso	52,748	60,628	14.9%	36,171	36,048	-0.3%
Kennewick	309,150	318,507	3.0%	215,266	219,534	2.0%
Kent	562,385	528,430	-6.0%	215,502	223,239	3.6%
Kirkland	329,792	330,140	0.1%	194,267	199,431	2.7%
Lacey	137,582	157,128	14.2%	87,232	102,704	17.7%
Longview	154,152	196,277	27.3%	92,206	91,281	-1.0%
Lynnwood	482,082	477,579	-0.9%	362,928	352,711	-2.8%
Marysville	105,478	105,593	0.1%	62,016	62,436	0.7%
Mercer Island	66,653	63,915	-4.1%	13,685	14,987	9.5%
Moses Lake	96,798	92,507	-4.4%	58,330	56,636	-2.9%
Mount Vernon	120,653	122,278	1.3%	83,537	79,585	-4.7%
Mountlake Terrace	40,977	32,979	-19.5%	15,287	15,915	4.1%
Oak Harbor	66,514	67,953	2.2%	44,269	42,482	-4.0%
Olympia	390,796	397,636	1.8%	250,586	247,048	-1.4%
Omak	27,501	30,278	10.1%	20,852	20,469	-1.8%
Pasco	150,170	150,578	0.3%	70,021	70,192	0.2%
Port Angeles	63,847	66,328	3.9%	36,421	37,347	2.5%
Port Townsend	36,048	36,009	-0.1%	17,510	17,018	-2.8%
Pullman	58,859	57,275	-2.7%	27,822	28,134	1.1%
Puyallup	381,886	377,405	-1.2%	299,540	286,777	-4.3%
Redmond	429,195	453,826	5.7%	187,255	213,849	14.2%
Renton	435,284	459,901	5.7%	252,730	246,840	-2.3%
Richland	141,850	153,144	8.0%	72,255	78,685	8.9%
SeaTac	170,746	213,210	24.9%	32,875	27,830	-15.3%
Seattle	3,349,470	3,338,956	-0.3%	1,421,533	1,429,376	0.6%
Shelton	45,479	47,901	5.3%	29,035	27,330	-5.9%
Spokane	850,160	843,830	-0.7%	470,062	480,870	2.3%
Sunnyside	56,028	51,718	-7.7%	34,463	34,009	-1.3%
Tacoma	979,121	938,727	-4.1%	551,900	545,036	-1.2%
Tukwila	493,377	482,005	-2.3%	336,978	338,111	0.3%
Vancouver	531,608	525,345	-1.2%	284,594	286,900	0.8%
Walla Walla	107,491	101,193	-5.9%	55,755	53,486	-4.1%
Wenatchee	150,342	155,844	3.7%	93,649	92,888	-0.8%
Yakima	314,285	316,356	0.7%	183,570	185,705	1.2%

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